Improving Tourism Publicity

1167. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government during the last one year to improve the tourism publicity?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): During the last one year, efforts have been made to produce high quality publicity material. These include brochures on Indian Classical Dances & Music, Wildlife, Calcutta- Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konarak circuit and India by Rail which have already been produced. The print programme involves the printing of the following brouchures during the current financial year:

(i) Fairs & Festivals

(ii) Shopping

(iii) Trekking

(iv) Rajasthan Desert circuit

(v) Agra-Orchha-Gwalior- Khajuraho-Panna circuit

(vi) Kerala circuit

The following films have been produced during the last one year:

(1) In the footsteps of the Buddha

(2) Land of Emerald Hues—A film on the North East

(3) Waters of Life

The Department of Tourism has also established a web-site on Internet for providing information about Indian tourism through the net. The overseas offices of the Department are undertaking various activities to improve tourism publicity. As a result tourist arrivals to India grew at a rate of 7.7% during 1996.

Development of Tourism in hilly region of Uttar Pradesh

1168. SMT. JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken to boost tourism in the hilly region of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of development work

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has set up a Task Force for the Development of tourism in Himalayan region including the hilly region of Uttar Pradesh. The Department of Tourism provided Central Financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh for the following projects located in the hilly region:—

1. Tented accommodation at Nand Paryag.
2. Triveni Ghat at Rishikesh
3. Water sports equipments
4. Motel at Daula Devi

For the year 1996-97 the following projects/ activities have been identified for Central financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh for the hilly region;

1. A reception Centre at Rishikesh
2. Aero sport activities at Jully Grant
3. Skiing equipment for Auli
4. Water Sport equipment at Nanak Sagar
5. River Rafting equipment.

12.00 NOON

[The Deputy Chairman *in The Chair*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and accounts (1995-96) of National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta, Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi; National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research Cuttak and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI): Madam, on behalf of Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia,

I lay on the table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the follwing papers:

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1454/97]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1453/97]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Cuttak, for the year 1995-96 together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1452/97]

I. Report and accounts of the National Housing Bank, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Notifications of Ministry of Finance

III. Notification of Institute of Company Secretaries of India

IV. Notifications of SEBI

V. Notifications of Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Madam I lay on the Table-

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report and Accounts of the National Housing Bank, New Delhi, for the period from 1st July, 1995 to 30th June, 1996 together with the Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (5) of Section 40 of National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1403/97]

II. (a) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification G.S.R. No 73 (E) dated the 14th February, 1997 publishing the Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coins) of the One Hundred Rupees (containing Silver 50%. Copper 40% Nickel 5% and Zinc 5%) Fifty Rupees and Five Rupees (containing Copper 75% and Nickel 25%) coined on the occasion of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on "Men and Women Partnership in Politics", Rules 1997, under sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1651/97]

(b) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, together with Explanatory memoranda on the Notifications:—

(1) Notification G.S.R. No. 570(E), dated the 16th December, 1996 amending Notification No. 8/96-CE, dated the 23rd July, 1996.

(2) Notification G.S.R. No. 85(3) dated the 20th February, 1997 exempting the duties of excise leviable in excess of 15% ad valorem on such paper and paperboard containing at least 50% unconventional raw materials.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1589/97]

(c) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:—

(1) Notification S.O. No. 880(E), dated the 18 December, 1996 publishing the Income-tax (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1996.

(2) Notification S.O. No. 35(E), dated the 10th January, 1997 publishing the Income-tax (First Amendment) Rules, 1997.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 1588/97]

III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the